

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the abstract as follows:

The present invention provides methods and compositions ~~of treating hypertension. The methods generally involve administering a factor which increases angiogenesis and/or vascular permeability. Compositions for use in the methods are also provided, for treating impaired filtration or excretion of a solute from the kidney using a vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF).~~